

## RDA Refresher Performance Support: Recording 33X Fields

With the implementation of RDA, catalogers no longer record the General Material Designator (GMD) in 245 \$h. Instead, this information is conveyed using 336, 337, and 338 fields.

### **336 Content Type** **RDA 6.9; List of terms in 6.9.1.3**

“a categorization reflecting the fundamental form of communication in which the content is expressed and the human sense through which it is intended to be perceived.”

*Examples:* spoken word; still image; performed music; text

### **337 Media Type** **RDA 3.2; List of terms in 3.2.1.3**

“a categorization reflecting the general type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource.”

*Examples:* audio; computer; microform; unmediated

### **338 Carrier Type** **RDA 3.3; List of terms in 3.3.1.3**

“a categorization reflecting the format of the storage medium and housing of a carrier in combination with the type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource.”

*Examples:* audio disc; microfilm reel; videocassette; volume

### **What is the General Policy?**

All three elements are CORE for LC and PCC catalogers. You must record one for each Type.

### **What do I do in the Case of ‘Mixed-Media’ Resources?**

It is your choice. You may either simply record the predominant type for each. Or you may record as many as you think are useful to convey to the user.

*For example:*

- 1) for a book of text about a composer, that also has some illustrations and musical notations:
  - three 336 fields: “text”; “still image”; “notated music”
  - one 337 field: “unmediated”
  - one 338 field: “volume”
- 2) for a “xxx for dummies” software instructional guide, with a CD-ROM in a back pocket:
  - one 336 field: “text”
  - two 337 fields: “unmediated”; “computer”
  - two 338 fields: “volume”; “computer disc”
- 3) for a website with maps, text, and photographs:
  - three 336 fields: “text”; “still image”; “cartographic image”
  - one 337 field: “computer”
  - one 338 field: “online resource”

- 4) for a map that includes a key and a street index (*recording predominant types only*):
- one 336 field: “cartographic image”
  - one 337 field: “unmediated”
  - one 338 field “sheet”

### So it is Not Necessary to have a ‘Parallel’ Complement of Fields?

Correct. The guiding principle is to code for what the resource is. Don’t simply count fields.

Look at example 1) above -- there are three types of content, but they are all in a “volume” which is “unmediated” (i.e., you don’t need a machine). Look at example 2) -- there are two different carriers, one of which requires “mediation” (i.e., a computer); but the content is all “text.”

### What is the MARC Structure of these Fields?

- both indicators are blank
- \$a includes the *term* for the controlled list in RDA
- \$b may be used to record the relevant *code* (LC does not currently require this, although you may retain it in copied records)
- \$2 specifies the *vocabulary* that is the source of the term; as appropriate, “rdacontent”; “rdamedia”; “rdacarrier”
- For mixed-media resources, you *may* use \$3 to specify *which* portion of the resource the field describes (these terms are uncontrolled); for example 2) above, you could record
  - 337 ## \$3 book \$a unmediated \$2 rdacarrier *and*
  - 337 ## \$3 CD-ROM \$a computer \$2 rdacontent

### Are There Any Shortcuts to Keying All This Data?

Yes – easy-peasy. If you are an LC cataloger, one of each field will be automatically included in the record when the template for the format is chosen and the record first begun.

For example, when the template for a **book** is selected, it automatically includes these fields:

```
336 ## $a text $2 rdacontent
337 ## $a unmediated $2 rdamedia
338 ## $a volume $2 rdacarrier
```

Then, if you have a resource with multiple types (*and if you choose to record them*) you can simply copy the appropriate field, add it into the record in the proper order -- *and edit the terms as appropriate*. Within a group of multiple fields of the same tag, remember to record the predominant one first (there is no definition of ‘predominant’ – use your judgment).

### Are There Any Other Points to Remember?

In original cataloging, LC records multiple types in separate fields. But you may accept and ‘pass through’ copied records which contain this data in multiple \$a of a single field

e.g., 336 ## \$a text \$a still image \$2 rdacontent